

THE OWOSSO TIMES.

VOL. XIX, NO. 31.

OWOSSO, MICHIGAN, DEC. 24, 1897.

WHOLE NO. 908.

FOURTH IN SIZE BUT FIRST IN PRICE.

The Cheap John

NEW BARGAIN CLOTHING HOUSE,

The Cheapest place in Owosso to buy Clothing—Read the following prices and be convinced:

Gents' Furnishing Goods ..

Heavy Overshirts, worth 35c, our price..... 25c
Heavy Jersey Overshirts, worth 50c, our price..... 40c
Heavy All-wool Overshirts, worth \$1.00 and \$1.25, our price..... 75c
Heavy Underwear, big bargain for. 25c
Heavy All-wool Fleece-lined Underwear, worth 75c, at..... 50c
Heavy Gray Wool Shirts, worth 60c, our price..... 38c
One line Ladies' Underwear, worth 35c, at..... 28c
Cotton Socks, worth 5c, at..... 3c
Heavy All-wool Socks, worth 25c, at..... 10c
Suspenders, worth 25c, at..... 19c
Leather Suspenders at..... 19c
Mittens and Gloves at wholesale prices.
Woolen Mittens, worth 25c, at..... 7c
White Laundry Shirts, worth 50c and 75c, at..... 40c
The best Overall in the world, they are sold all over for 75c, our price..... 48c
Flush Caps, worth 50c and 75c, our price..... 39c
Heavy Cloth Caps, excellent value, 25c
Heavy Beaver Caps, worth 50c and 75c, at..... 39c
Duck Coats..... 80c
Fine Dress Shirts, worth \$1.00, at..... 60c
Men's Single Vests at 50c, 75c and \$1.00

Shoes ..

200 pairs Shoes, sizes 9, 10 and 11, all odd sizes, we will close them out at One-Half Price.

Clothing ..

Heavy All-wool Suits, worth \$10.00, our price..... \$6.50
Working Suits..... 3.00
All-wool Suits, worth \$8.00, at..... 4.90

Overcoats ..

Fine Dress Beaver Coat, worth \$10.00, at..... \$6.50
Heavy All-wool Chinchilla, worth \$15.00 to \$18.00, at..... 9.00
One lot of Overcoats at..... 2.50
One lot of Overcoats at..... 4.50

Pants ..

One lot of fine Clay Worsted Pants worth \$4.50, at..... \$3.00
One lot of fine Tailor-made Pants, worth \$4.00, at..... 2.50
One lot Heavy Dressing Pants, worth \$2.00, at..... 1.25
One lot of Cassimere Pants, worth \$3.00, at..... 1.75
Good Heavy Working Pants, worth \$1.50, at..... 1.00
Special bargains in Children's Suits.
Boys' Knee Pants at..... 19c

LOOK FOR THE BIG "CHEAP JOHN" SIGN.

We lead in Low Prices at the Great Bargain Store. Headquarters, Saginaw. Branch store, Owosso.

THE CHEAP JOHN NEW BARGAIN CLOTHING HOUSE,

113 W. Main Street,

Owosso, Mich.

A. DECKERT, THE TAILOR.

The Cheapest Place in the city to get your Clothing Made to Order.

Overcoats, - - - \$20.00
Suits, - - - 18.00
Pantaloons, - - - 4.00

All Wool Goods. No Cotton or Shody. Fit or your Money back.

A. DECKERT,

113 S. Washington St., - Owosso.

The Radiant Home Air Blast

WITH XXth CENTURY FIRE POT.

(Radiant Home Air Blast.)

For all grades of ..

SOFT COAL, HARD COAL, or WOOD.....

If you want a Stove with which you can save money by burning Slack and the Cheaper Grades of Soft Coal, doing away with the soot puffing and smoke that has heretofore made Soft Coal objectionable for house use, buy this stove.

SAVE MONEY BY BURNING SOFT COAL.

It Cakes the Coal and Burns the Gas.

(20th Century Fire Pot)

Call and examine our Large and Elegant Stock of Coal and Wood Heating Stoves, Cook Stoves, Ranges, etc., and you will surely be able to suit yourself as to kind and price.
113 E. Main Street. IRA G. CURRY, HARDWARE.

THE OWOSSO SCHOOLS.

Badly Crowded, but Doing Good Work—What the High School is Doing.

The city schools closed yesterday for the holiday vacation of one week after one of the most difficult terms as well as one of the quietest and most successful in their history.

The principal difficulty has been caused by the lack of sufficient school room. This feature of the case was emphasized by Supt. Simmons who said that in none of the eight years, preceding this, of his superintendency in Owosso, had he had so much difficulty in regard to making transfers from one school building to another on account of the lack of room.

The schools are all badly crowded. In most cities it is well recognized that it is useless to try to have one teacher keep more than thirty-five pupils under his control, and the rooms are usually seated to hold only that number. In Owosso, however, practically all are compelled to have as many as fifty-five pupils each while there are fourteen who have between fifty-five and sixty-five each. It can easily be seen that this does not pay. There are few pupils so bright that at some time they do not need individual personal assistance. But experience has shown this to be a thing practically impossible for a teacher with more than thirty-five pupils. The Washington school is the most crowded and the Central school stands next. It is thought, however, that two additional rooms at the Washington school would relieve the congestion when the resulting transfers are taken into account. There is some talk of building such an addition during the coming spring. Every room in every building, large enough to be used for a school room, is now in use and the Union chapel also accommodates a grade.

With the exception of the crowded condition the buildings are in excellent condition. The heating and ventilating arrangements are satisfactory. The Central school is the only one supplied with closets connected with the sewer, but the Smead system is working in excellent shape in the Emerson and Washington schools, some occasional report to the contrary notwithstanding. Teachers' meetings, as heretofore, are held on alternate Wednesdays at four o'clock in room 12, Central school. The assembly room will soon be in shape to be lighted, however, and then it will probably be used for that purpose. At these meetings the study of the latest methods is pursued and the best writings on educational or allied topics are read. These meetings are open to any who feel an interest in such matters and a number of outsiders are availing themselves of the privilege of attending them. Besides these general teachers' meetings, meetings are occasionally held of different grade teachers for the discussion of methods more appropriate to their work, business arithmetic and good reading having received especial emphasis lately.

There are at present one hundred and forty-four pupils in the eighth grade and there is no reason why the number of promotion to the high school this year should not far exceed that of any previous year as it certainly will. In the eighth grade as well as in the other grammar grades more stress than ever is being placed on arithmetic, geography and grammar while the work in reading is considered quite as important as any of the other studies and just as essential in determining the pupil's fitness for promotion.

In connection with the eighth grade work it may be mentioned that plans are being considered for holding promotion exercises in one of the churches next June when the one hundred and forty, or thereabouts, pupils to be promoted to the high school, will receive certificates of promotion. If carried out, however, it will be only an inexpensive exercise, not in any way to take the place in the pupils' minds of graduation exercises, but rather to be of a nature to encourage them to go further in their studies. Here it may be mentioned that the commencement exercises this year will take place on the 3rd of June owing to the shortening of the school year which will close on the 9th of June.

The high school closed yesterday with an enrollment of two hundred and twenty-one, and there has never been a fall term in its history when the work has passed along more smoothly and with more good feeling between teachers and pupils than this, a fact which must certainly be gratifying in the extreme to Prin. D. F. Mertz and his five assistants.

Special emphasis has been placed lately on attendance and punctuality in the high school with the result that tardiness has been reduced practically to a minimum, being but a fractional part of one-tenth of one per cent. for November, while the attendance for the same month attained the high rating of ninety-nine per cent.

Some will doubtless be interested in what the different high school teachers are busy-ing themselves with, and what the pupils are doing at present. To such the following sketch may be of interest:

Prin. Mertz has but one vacant hour during the day in which to look after high school work in general and the remainder of his time is taken up with two classes each in geometry, chemistry and physics. At present the classes in geometry are studying the subject of the circle. In

chemistry besides their text book work the pupils are doing practical work in the laboratory and gaining a practical knowledge of what some of our common commercial substances are composed of. The principles studied in physics this week have been those made use of in the barometer, the common lift pump and the force pump, the last two common illustrations bringing the practicability of the matter home to all. If you don't believe this just try to explain why the water comes up through the valve and follows up the plunger of a common lift pump.

The work of Miss Boice is confined entirely to Latin and German which subjects are of more importance than ever now since a pupil must have two years work in some language in order to be admitted to the University. Miss Boice has two classes in beginning Latin, one class reading Caesar's histories of the Gallic wars, one Cicero's orations, and one Vergil's Aeneid. Her advanced German class is reading high class modern stories and poems.

Miss Lowell has seven sections all deep in English work. Three of them are ninth grade sections which are studying Burns's writings at present. Two of the classes, the seniors, are studying the Bunker Hill oration of Daniel Webster. As a sample of what kind of reading the classes are studying it may be mentioned that the work of the senior class for this year covers the following well known standard writings: Emerson's American Scholar, Fortunes of the Republic, Shakespeare's Macbeth, Lincoln's Gettysburg speech, and selections from Paradise Lost.

The work of Miss Hodge lies in English-masterpiece work, English literature and civil government. Her section in masterpiece, the tenth grade, is reading the Vicar of Wakefield at present and her civil government class is now studying the civil government of our own state.

Miss Hartshorn's classes, with but one exception, a class in English analysis, are classes in history. She has at present three sections in English history, two in general history and one in United States history. The disproportion between English and U. S. history is, however, only temporary owing to a change in the course.

An ordinary person who listened to Miss Curlier's classes for one day would be quite likely to have visions of "ix square, minus the square root of minus x equals - what" running through his head that night. All of her seven classes are classes in algebra this semester and that the subject is an important one those can but realize who have tried to do advanced work without a proper knowledge of algebra to begin with.

The above gives a fairly complete summary of the teaching required of the high instructors though this is of course but a small part of their regular routine work. Another feature of the high school work has just been set in motion principally by the pupils themselves. This is the organization of a literary society, membership to which is open to the junior and senior classes of the high school. The society will meet every alternate Friday evening in the high school assembly room and has as its object to "promote an interest in literature, to increase the knowledge of parliamentary procedure, to cultivate the art of public speaking, and to establish a stronger bond of fellowship among the members of the Owosso High School." The officers, elected Tuesday evening, are: Isaac Gladden, Pres.; Elizabeth Todd, Vice-Pres.; Bertha Edwards, Secy.; Glynn Blanchard, Treas.; Roy Matthews, Marshal; Edna Osborne, Critic.

Their Vacations.

Of the thirty-eight teachers, who in addition to Supt. Simmons, are necessary to the proper instruction of Owosso's young ladies and gentlemen, quite a number will be out of the city during the vacation. The following are among the number:

Miss Hodge will spend the holidays at her home in Plymouth.

Miss Boice goes to Lansing to spend the vacation at home and in attendance upon the State Teachers Association.

Miss Lowell goes to her home in Union City for a holiday visit.

Miss McKinnis will make her Christmas visit at her home in Nashville.

Miss Wrigley will enjoy a Christmas on the farm visiting her parents in Caledonia.

Miss Satterlee as usual will spend her vacation at her home in Vernon.

Prin. Traplaga, of the Emerson, who had a severe run of typhoid fever regained sufficient strength to be carried to his home in Fenton the first of this week.

Supt. J. W. Simmons will meet with the State Board of Education in Lansing Tuesday to assist in conducting a four days teachers' examination for life certificates.

Prin. D. F. Mertz will spend the holidays under the parental roof at Burnett's Creek, Ind., in accordance with the custom of having a family gathering at Christmas time, which his family has always observed.

Christmas at the Postoffice.

The postoffice will close at 12 o'clock for the day. Carriers will make one general and one business delivery in the forenoon. The office will be open on Sunday from 9 to 10 a. m.

C. LAWRENCE, Postmaster.

Lost.

Medium size white bound, light yellow spots. \$3.00 reward for return. Inquire at this office.

JOLLY OLD BACHELORS!

Will Serve Nice, Tender, Fried Chicken at the Congregational Church Tuesday Evening.

It seems almost useless to take any space to call attention to the annual supper to be given by the gentlemen of the Congregational church on Tuesday evening next in the dining room of the building. The famous spreads of past years, together with the unusually warm welcome and royal good time assured every guest, has led the public to look forward each year to this gathering. The plans this year are more elaborate than for years past, everything will be done to make the occasion in keeping with the festivities of the week. Everyone is invited to be present. Supper (and it will be a big one) will be served from 5 to 8 o'clock at the nominal price of 25 cents.

The work thus far has been in charge of Messrs. Robt. Gemmell, G. W. Haskell and Albert West as a general committee of arrangements. The following committees have been appointed for the evening:

Reception—E. O. Dewey, A. M. Bentley, Fred Osburn, L. D. H. Ralph, A. M. Gay, M. C. Dawes, Tod Kincaid, Albert Todd, D. J. Gerow, W. S. Hunt, Rev. J. C. Cromer, H. W. Holman, Rev. W. S. Ament, Chas. Taphouse, Jas. Ellis, Jas. Loch, C. W. Gale, P. P. Beswick, Frank Woodard.

Music—G. H. Grahame, H. C. Prieske, A. E. Ferry.

Ushers—J. T. Walsh, M. D. Corey, H. P. Wolaver, R. E. Travis, G. L. Taylor, Alfred Woodard, Dwight North, John Royce, Ernest Zimmerman, Fred Woodard.

Tables—A. Gilson, W. D. Royce, Geo. B. McCaughna, Dr. J. B. Dowdigan, L. C. Hall, Erven Geeck, Geo. W. Sprinkle, S. J. Corey, G. T. Campbell, B. G. Evans.

Tickets—H. C. McGuineas, Thos. Tubbs, Will H. Brown.

Dining Room—G. W. Haskell.

Coffee—C. D. Stewart, E. W. Woodward.

Pop Corn and other broken joints—Drs. Hume, Crum, Jopling, Hoyer, McCormick, Phelps, Ward, Perkins, Philpen.

Chairman of the evening—M. Osburn.

Speakers—W. M. Kilpatrick, S. E. Parkhill, S. S. Miner, F. H. Watson, G. B. McCaughna.

Music by Grahame's Orchestra.

Invitation Committee—Every gentleman of the church and society.

"There'll be a 'hot time' in the stone church that night and we wish every member on the floor with his friends."

The Christmas Entertainments.

The Christmas exercises at the M. E. church will be held Tuesday evening when a Christmas cantata will be given by the Sunday school in the lecture room.

The Baptist Sunday school will hold their Christmas exercises tonight in the assembly room of the church. There will be a Christmas tree with presents for the younger pupils, many of whom will take part in the exercises.

Calvary Mission, 1009 W. Main street, is ahead of the other Sunday schools in the city as their Xmas exercises are already out of the way. They held their exercises Wednesday evening in their rooms on West Main street. The room was filled and the pupils enjoyed themselves hugely with the treat which had been prepared for them.

The Congregational Sunday school will have its Christmas exercises Wednesday afternoon in the church parlors. There will be exercises by the members of the primary department who will also be treated to a supper in the church and will receive appropriate presents.

Plans are not complete as yet for the Episcopal Christmas exercises which will, however, be held some time next week when the usual good time is sure to be enjoyed.

The arrangements for the Christmas tree at the Riverside church this evening are rapidly nearing completion. A programme consisting of music, recitations and dialogues has been prepared for the evenings entertainment and a good time will be had.

A Christmas tree and a cantata will be attractions at Asbury M. E. church tonight. Scholars and patrons of the school will be admitted free, but for all others an admission of 10 cents will be charged. This is thought by the directors to be the only way to prevent a large crowd of curious people from outside the church crowding out those directly interested.

Close of the Extension Lectures.

The closing lecture in the University Extension course was given Friday evening, the subject being, George Washington, the first president. The course, which has been entirely on early American history, has been of unusual interest this fall and winter, the subjects being indicative rather of the time treated in the lecture than the subject of it. The underlying current of thought and the general trend of events towards the nationalizing of all under one government has been continually kept in mind, and those who have attended the lectures have a clearer idea what the revolutionary soldiers and statesmen were really aiming at and what they wished this government to be than ever before. It is only to be regretted that the course has ended so early in the season and that Prof. Sparks cannot be secured to continue the course. However, the ladies of the two literary societies, the Current Topic Club and the Woman's Literary Club, are to be congratulated on the high quality and general interest of the course. Financially the course came out practically even.

Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.



Hawaiian Annexation.

The consensus of calm, cool, and careful opinion relative to the annexation of the Sandwich Islands is culminating against such a denouement.

If there is anything that Americans as a nation excel in, it is "quash." We are too fresh altogether and do things in haste to repent of at leisure. Just now it is the annexation of Hawaii with its contingent islands, seven in number, which has for some time been with the majority of people perhaps, a foregone conclusion, but latterly there have been a few voices of warning raised—in the midst of the general clamor in its favor—against such a procedure, notably among whom is Judge Agnew, of the supreme bench of Pennsylvania from '73 to '78. He contends that such a move is not only impolitic, but that it is unconstitutional, and further states that if there is any precedent in its favor, that such a thing does not make annexation of this kind constitutional. That in order to amend the constitution, it requires two-thirds of the votes in congress, ratified by three-fourths of the states. That in tampering with this document we are undermining the very life and existence of the government, which history proves are all short lived comparatively speaking. He contends that it is ruinous and dangerous to meddle in this matter, and it certainly seems as tho' we had about all we want to attend to as a nation now, without putting any more load on the governmental shoulders. But we jump at conclusions, and congress now can hardly wait the opportunity to pick up this "gem of the ocean," when the fact is, it will begin to burn the moment we get it in hand.

Just think of it! There are 109,000 population there, only one-third of which is native and only 6,700 of the entire mass is sufficiently educated for self government. And we want to give them two senators and an indefinite number of representatives to black up the house of representatives, and further agree to protect and foster them and keep the turbulent elements in subjection, and for what? They have land enough, without seeking homes on those rocks and lava beds of which those islands are principally composed, and no white man can do field labor under the burning sun of that tropical climate. And then on the island of Molokai, one of the group, set apart for the purpose, there are over 1000 lepers which together with their nurses and attendants, cost the government \$150,000 yearly to support, feed, and maintain. We want that contingent, do we?

No, but we want Hawaii for a strategic point in case of war, and for a coaling station. Hon. James Bryce M. P., author of "The American Commonwealth," speaking from an American stand point, concludes, very wisely too, that instead of being a source of strength, it would be for a government like ours—which boasts of no standing army, or a navy of any great importance, comparatively speaking—an element of expensive weakness. We would require a navy to patrol the Pacific in order for its protection, which would cost more than the whole thing is worth, and then it would only be ours so long as circumstances favored the contract. It would be a repetition of England's folly in Jamaica thirty years ago when the home government had to back out and let the "naguers" have their own way.

This condition applies to Cuba also, only with greater force, even if that was offered to us—say nothing about going to war over a set of half civilized mongrels who are as incompetent as the Haitians for self government. We don't want it and we can't use it in our business. We have enough to do to attend to our own home matters, and keep the foreign element within bounds while we squander a few millions annually in the hopeless task of evangelizing a few Buddhists and Mohammedans whose religious tenets are incorporated into their very vices, so that it is easier for the leopard to change its spots than for one of them to be any other than what he was bred to, save for revenue only.

Speaker Reed is charged with holding dissenting views on the Hawaiian question, but it is safe to say that he is very liable to be level headed and correct on every question of a national character. WARD. Laingsburg, Dec. 23, '97.

Special sale on Watches for the month of December. Having bought a large stock of Watches before the rise, I will make special prices on all Watches sold in December. T. O. CHRISTIAN, Jeweler, Owosso, Mich.